

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 239066

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 RSC-01 /029 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:SPOLANSKY:DFS

APPROVED BY EUR:JAARMITAGE

C -- MR. SHINN (SUBS)

S/S- MR. GAMMON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 239066

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TSPA, UR

SUBJECT: APOLLO-SOYUZ PROJECT: LIVE COVERAGE OF LAUNCH

REF: A) MOSCOW 16406; B) BONN-16886

LONDON FOR HARTMAN AND SONNENFELDT

1. FOR EMBASSY'S INFORMATION, LOW-KELDYSH LETTER POUCHED TO EMBASSY OCTOBER 25, CARE OF ACTING SCIENCE COUNSELOR, WITH INSTRUCTION THAT DEPT. WOULD INFORM EMBASSY RE DELIVERY OF LETTER.

2. IN CONNECTION WITH AMBASSADOR'S APPROACH TO SOVIETS, AMBASSADOR SHOULD BE AWARE THAT US WIRE SERVICES OCT. 23 CARRIED ITEM ON FLETCHER LETTER TO WES GALLAGHER, PRES. OF AP, RESPONDING TO LATTER'S COMPLAINT THAT SOVIETS WILL NOT RPT NOT PERMIT LIVE COVERAGE OF SOYUZ LAUNCH. ACCORDING TO ITEM, FLETCHER WROTE GALLAGHER THAT SOVIETS STEADFASTLY REFUSED TO PERMIT US NEWSMEN TO VIEW SOYUZ LAUNCH, BUT THAT THE SOVIETS WILL PROVIDE QTE MOST COMPREHENSIVE RELEASE EVER TO US NEWS MEDIA OF REAL-TIME INFORMATION RELATED TO A SOVIET SPACE MISSION. UNQTE ITEM ADDS THAT ON OCT. 21, FLETCHER SIGNED AGREEMENT WORKED OUT BY BOTH COUNTRIES FOR NEWS COVERAGE OF FLIGHT. THERE IS, HOWEVER, NO RPT NO MENTION OF LOW-KELDYSH LETTER OR THAT LETTER AND AGREEMENT BEING TRANSMITTED TO USSR. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INFORMATION MEDIA, SPACE PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE239066
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: SPOLANSKY:DFS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740310-0564
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974102/aaaaabgr.tel
Line Count: 60
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) MOSCOW 16406; B) BONN-16886
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <12 MAR 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: APOLLO-SOYUZ PROJECT: LIVE COVERAGE OF LAUNCH
TAGS: PFOR, TSPA, UR, US
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005